

THE HEADLIGHT.
—BY THE—
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EDMUND G. ROSS, Editor.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1900.

Headquarters Democratic Central Committee of New Mexico.
Santa Fe, N. M., July 15th, 1900.
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Democratic Territorial Central Committee will be held at Santa Fe, N. M., on Monday, August 4th, 1900.
All members are earnestly requested to be present, as business of importance will be transacted.
C. H. CHILDS, Secretary.
Felix Martinez, Chairman.

The city of Buenos Ayres was lately bombarded for two days by the revolutionists. It is reported that one thousand people were killed and five thousand wounded.

The fight of Reed, McKinley, et al., on Blaine, is growing more bitter day by day. They even insist that he must not be permitted to resign from the Cabinet, but that he must be kicked out in disgrace.

The bill to establish a government assay office at Socorro has been favorably reported by the House committee, and the chances for its passage are fair. Our neighbor is to be congratulated.

Senator Sherman, on Wednesday last, offered an amendment to the deficiency appropriation bill, now pending in the senate, appropriating \$50,000 for marking the boundary line between the United States and Mexico, and called attention to its urgency. It will of course be adopted.

It seems very funny to hear our Central American neighbors boasting of the size of their standing armies—a couple of thousand or so—and their respective abilities for the work of slaughter. There is no fun in it for them, however. They are as much in earnest as though their armies numbered as many millions.

The secretary of the treasury announces that on and after the 15th inst. he will begin the purchase of silver bullion. No bids for less than ten thousand ounces will be considered. No poor man need apply. This is quite in contrast with the free coinage bill, under which the miser could send as few as a hundred ounces to the mint and have it coined, without having to submit to a shave by parties buying on speculation.

A general caucus of Republican Senators was held on Monday evening, at which three things were made quite apparent in regard to pending legislation: That there were enough Republicans ready to vote with the Democrats to prevent a change in the rules of the Senate for the purpose of shutting off debate on the Federal election or any other bill—that Blaine's reciprocity scheme would be likely to receive the support of a majority of the Western Senators, and that the McKinley tariff bill will be so changed in the Senate that when it goes back to the House its authors will not be able to recognize their own handiwork.

A NEW MEXICO CASE IN THE SUPREME COURT.
An important and historic case, involving the legal right to the office of District Attorney for the Third Judicial District of New Mexico, which has been in litigation for now some five years, is set for hearing at the October term of the Supreme Court of the United States. Appellant's brief in the case is just issued by his attorney, and is a masterful resume of not only the history, but the logic and the law of the case.

Involving as it does, the Constitutional right of the President, as well as the Territorial governor, to remove an official in vacation of the confirming body, the language of the Constitution and of the organic act relating thereto being the same, the case becomes one of national quite as much as local interest.

The authorities quoted are numerous and to the point, conspicuous among them being the action of the United States Senate sitting as a High Court of Impeachment for the trial of President Johnson for violation of the Tenure of office act.

This act, passed in 1868, made it a misdemeanor for the President to remove officials during the recess of the Senate. During the threatening recess of the Senate Mr. Johnson removed Mr. Stanton, the secretary of war, and appointed his successor. This was

in violation of the Tenure of office act, and in the spring of 1868 the House of Representatives preferred articles of impeachment.

A thorough investigation and trial was had—the trial and discussion occupying some six weeks, at the conclusion of which Mr. Johnson was acquitted—which acquittal was equivalent to a declaration that the Tenure of Office act was unconstitutional, and that the right of the President to remove and appoint in vacation of the Senate was a constitutional right which Congress could not alter or take away.

The provisions of the organic act of the Territory being substantially identical with those of the Constitution relating to the executive power of removal and appointment, the decision of the High Court of Impeachment was deemed by the Governor sufficient warrant for his exercise of that power in recess of the Territorial council. Hence the case at bar.

The main argument in the brief is predicated upon the similarity of the language of the organic act of New Mexico, under the authority of which the Governor acted, and that of the Constitution, under which the President makes removals every day, and it is maintained that neither the Congress in the one case or the Legislature in the other, can abridge that power.

This is the first time in the history of the Government that this constitutional question has been squarely presented to the Supreme court of the United States.

CUBA FOR SALE.

The report has been of frequent mention in the press of the country for some weeks that Spain has offered or is about to offer Cuba for sale, and that the United States government is the prospective purchaser.

The United States has no use for outlying marine provinces, or even states. It is true that Cuba, and to a greater or less degree, the entire West India group, are of greater consequence to the United States than to any other nation on account of their geographical position, lying at the entrance of the Gulf of Mexico, and in a sense the key to the gulf coast cities in case of a foreign war, to such a degree that their possession by any great foreign power would be a constant menace to our southern and southeastern coasts.

But the remedy for that possible contingency is not in annexation, but in the combination of that entire group in an independent West Indian Republic, under such measure of American protection as might be necessary to guarantee it against European interference in its affairs in any shape.

The Grant-Babcock scheme of some twenty years ago for the purchase and annexation of one of the West Indian islands, was thoroughly rebuked by Congress and the public sense of the people, and thus in the first time there has been since been any attempt at its revival, but it will probably not be the last. The opportunities for speculation and plunder in such a scheme are too great for the subject to much longer remain dormant.

The establishment there of a West Indian Republic is the proper, and to this country the inevitable and only safe solution of the problem, and it will come in due time if let alone.

TINKERING THE CONSTITUTION.

The House substitute for the Senate original package bill was on Saturday last non-concurred in by the Senate, and a committee of conference appointed. The House substitute was a better measure than that of the senate, and it is to be hoped that the conference will fail rather than that the House consent to anything less.

To say the least, there is an element of incongruity in the legislative department attempting by law to construe the national constitution. That is the business of the courts. If the Constitution needs amending, let Congress pursue the Constitutional method and propose the needed amendments—but don't tinker with it in the manner now proposed—setting up an act of Congress as a part of the Constitution. That is what they are doing now. The Constitution was never intended to be amended in this way and thus made subject to periodical innovations by the Legislative branch.

UNWARRANTED GRATULATION.

The Republican press has since the passage of the silver bill indulged in much movement over what it is pleased to term the mistake of the Democrats in opposing that bill, and the rapid advance of silver is cited in proof of their allegation.

This gratulation is not only unfounded, but ill-timed. The advance of silver is very gratifying, and will bring much needed relief to the silver producing sections. But that advance is simply on silver as bullion, not as money. The silver dollar gains no advantage from the increased price of bullion. In law, as money, it is worth no more to-day than it was a year ago, and it is not at all improbable that a year hence, under the operation of the silver bill as passed, subject to the interpretation and discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury, silver bullion will not be worth any more than it was a year ago, and be then in a really worse condition than it was under the Bland Law.

The critics of the action of the Democrats on the silver bill seem to forget that that action was based on a very important principle of public finance. They fought for silver as money, not as a mere commercial factor. Their goal was the permanent re-instatement of the silver dollar as a unit of money and standard of value—a common legal tender equal with gold—for the restoration of our constitutional money system, under which the producer of silver could take his bullion to the mint and have it coined into money at his pleasure, precisely as he can now, and has always been permitted to do, with his gold bullion—in a word, to put silver actually and permanently, and not fictitiously and temporarily, at par, by free coinage.

That was the central and controlling idea of the free coinage bill that the Democrats fought for and passed the Senate. That is what the silver interest of the country demands—what our metal money system requires for its healthy perfection and to put that basic element of national prosperity beyond the speculative manipulations of the greedy commercial and money centers.

But that is precisely what they do not get in this so-called silver bill. Silver is still an inferior money and a commodity—still subject to the manipulations of the bulls and bears of Wall street and the Treasury, practically the same as any product of agriculture—quite as subject to fluctuation and market speculation, precisely as much so as it has ever been since the demonetizing act of 1873. The principle of free coinage met, in the passage of this bill, the most disastrous defeat it has ever sustained.

How many men who honestly and conscientiously supported the free coinage bill that passed the Senate, can be content with this, passing comprehension. The weaklings for bread and was given a stone, and they who were thus deuced are now reviled for complaining.

TOPOLAHAMPO COLONY.

A Topokha correspondent of the St. Louis Republic writes that a Mr. Charles Shafer, who recently went to Topolohampo Bay, the southern terminus of the Deming & Pacific Railway, joining the Kansas colony which went to that country two years ago, has written to a citizen of Kansas a very interesting letter. He says the trip from Guyana by boat, being against a hard wind, lasted seven days, and sea-sickness lasted nearly as long. Arriving at the bay the writer found everything lovely and feels confident that Pacific City will shortly flourish as a shipping and commercial point, while he thinks that could he have had the planning of the land he would not have changed it in the least. Between the Puente and the bay the soil is rich and productive. An experimental farm at La Logia will give some idea of the productiveness of the country. A flourishing young orchard, composed of oranges, bananas, figs, dates, etc., is a most beautiful sight, while grapes, small fruits and vegetables of all varieties are simply immense. Some papaya trees, the seeds of which were planted two years ago this month, are 26 inches in circumference, and have been bearing fruit continually since they were 17 months old, the fruit being similar to a good musk melon. In speaking of cane, Mr. Shafer says it only requires planting once in 12 or 15 years, and raises two good crops a year very frequently, while cotton and castor beans grow wild.

KNOW WHAT HE WAS DOING.

There is poor consolation for the free coinage people who voted for the Sherman compromise bill the other day, in the following extract from the speech of Senator Dolph of Oregon. He is a single gold standard framer, and the only Senator from west of the Missouri who voted against free coinage. He thus explained the vote he cast for the Sherman Bullion Purchase bill:
I intend to vote for this measure because I consider it no different from free coinage as night is from day. I think the conference did well to make haste to report such a measure, for it is pretty generally understood that a disagreement of the conference might have led to the passage of a free coinage bill.

REBELLION IN THE HOUSE.

Speaker Reed was very effectively roasted, the other day, by Congressman Struble, of Iowa. The occasion was a ruling in relation to the public buildings bill, to which Struble objected. He contrasted the courteous manner of Speaker Carlisle towards all gentlemen requesting recognition with the almost sneering manner in which the present speaker treated such requests. The speaker, he said, treated members as though they were boys. He did not propose to stand this sort of treatment any longer without protest. Should members be asked to continue to submit longer, like cowards, to the dictation of the speaker? Should they not rather combine in an honest attempt to have recognition? He was for rebellion against the rulings of the speaker in regard to the public building bill.

Struble's onslaught created quite a sensation. It is to be hoped that he may be able to inspire his Republican colleagues with a little of his own nerve and independence.

According to the Washington correspondent of the St. Louis Republic, Blaine is making his Republican associates a great deal of trouble at the present time. Some of them call him a bull in a crockery shop; others declare that he is anxious to play the role of Samson, and pull the temple of Republicanism down about him. Reed, McKinley, Aldrich and Frye are furious. Traitor is the mildest word they use in describing Mr. Blaine. The friends of the Secretary of State, however, remain serene. They declare that he is right, that the common-sense of the country will sustain him and that if he interferes with the ambition of certain individuals he does so in order to rescue the Republican party from the unscrupulous radicals now in control of it. Blaine's last letter will make it more difficult for the Republicans to pass the McKinley bill in the Senate. It will furnish the recalcitrants with some new texts, ideas and arguments. On the whole the Republican brethren are far from being a happy family at present, and Blaine is looked upon as the chief disturber.

We have from reliable authority that the Knights of Labor are preparing an extensive review of the political situation in New Mexico and the condition of the native population, with a view of submitting it to the attention of the national authorities at Washington. It is said that it will be the most sweeping denunciation of party leaders in the territory ever issued, and instead of dealing with generalities will consist of a complete review of the political career of each one of the busy politicians, in which specific charges of the most startling character will be made. It is expected that the document will be a most profound sensation through the United States, as facts will be brought out which no one has dared to even touch upon recently up to the present time. [Las Vegas Daily.]

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REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE

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In the Territory of New Mexico, At the close of business July 15th, 1900.

RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts, \$100,000.00

Overdrafts, secured and unsecured, 5,000.00

U. S. Bonds to secure circulation, 10,000.00

Stocks, securities, judgments, claims, etc., 5,000.00

Due from approved reserve agents, 10,000.00

Due from other National Banks, 1,000.00

Due from State Banks and bankers, 1,000.00